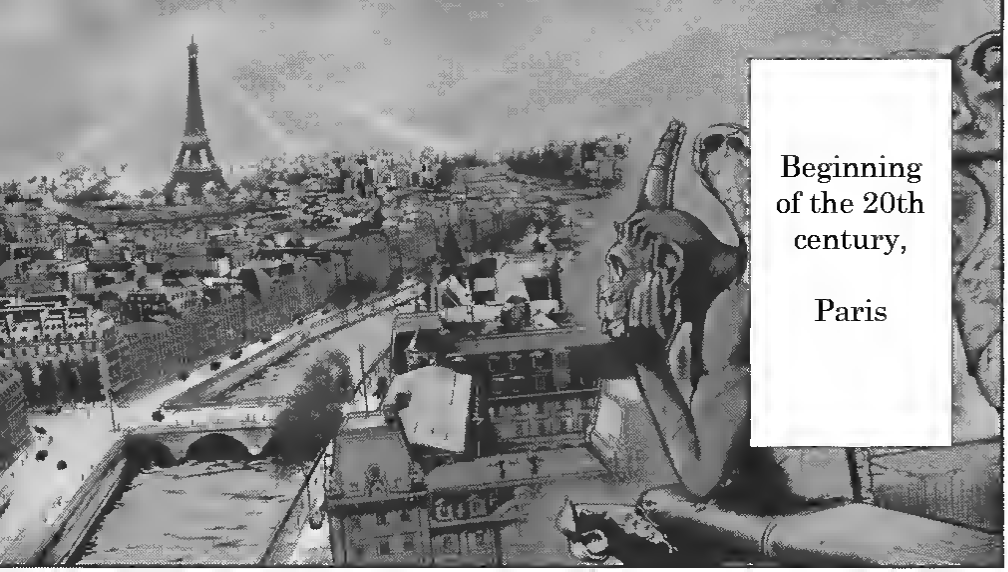
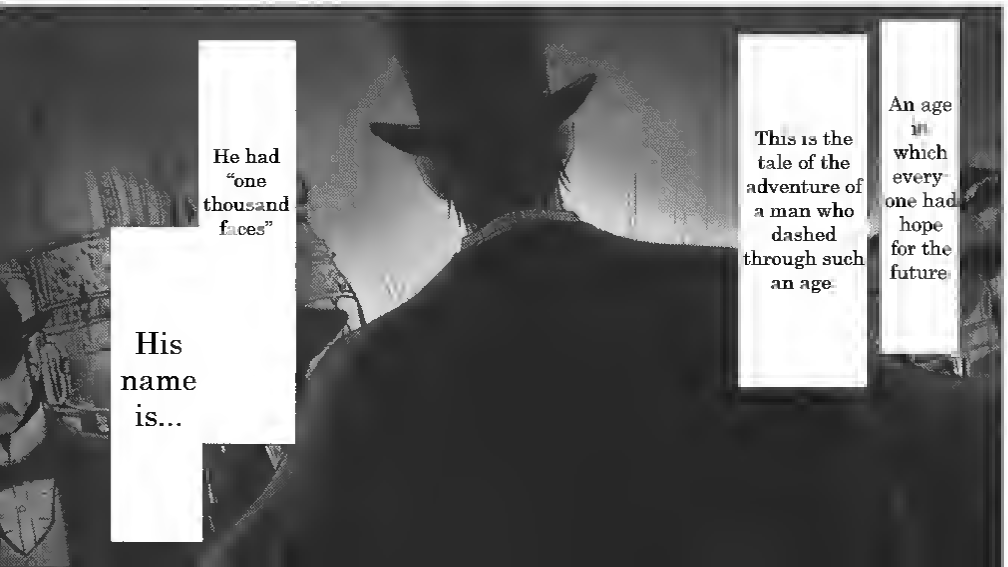

Beginning of the 20th century,
Paris

The capital of dreams of the future of fantasy
The metropolis of scientific civilization, hosting most of the World Fairs in the second half of the 19th century


He had "one thousand faces"
His name is...
This is the tale of the adventure of a man who dashed through such an age
An age in which every one had hope for the future

CHAPITRE I

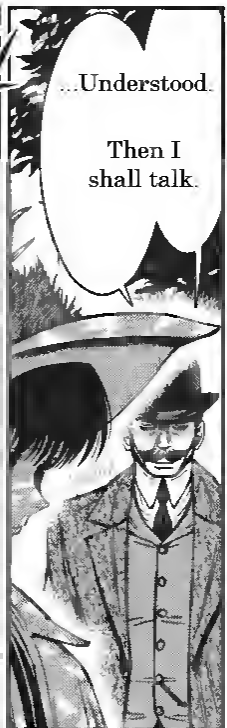
The Arrest of Arsène Lupin

Outskirts of Paris
Garches

.....
...about that boy
I see... So you want to know at any cost...

Listen to all of it!
Listen to what this person knows!
I understand. In that case, listen carefully!

First... yes, the year 1899.

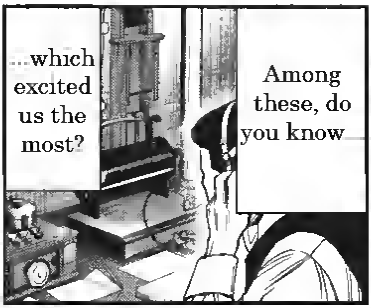

...Understood.
Then I shall talk.

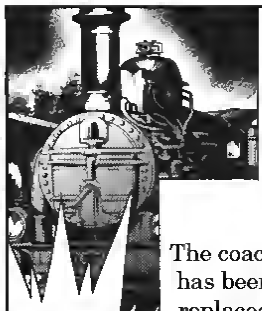
... Is it alright?

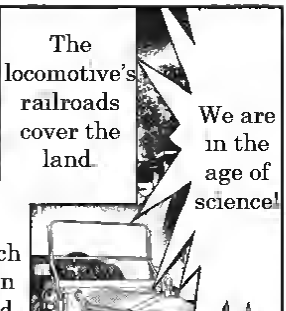
Nod

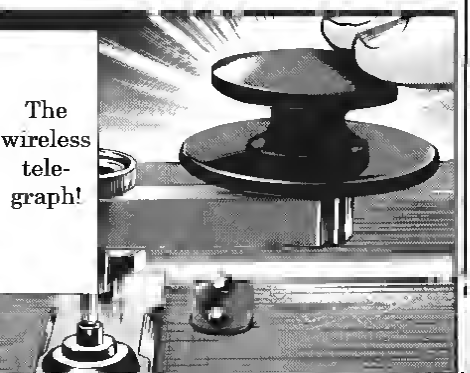
On the Atlantic Ocean
The regular service luxury liner from France to America, *La Provence*.
We had already gotten closer to each other...
The ship's passengers were the most select of the upper classes
The voyage had commenced in a most auspicious manner!
This was the first time I, Bernard d'Andrézy, had gone on such an enjoyable journey!

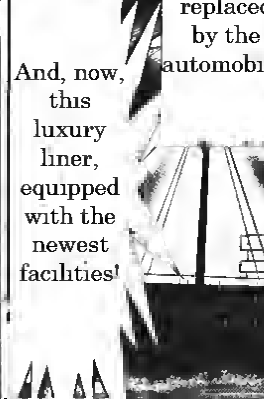
Let us start with the story of his arrest...!

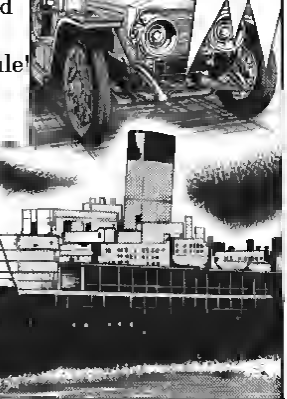


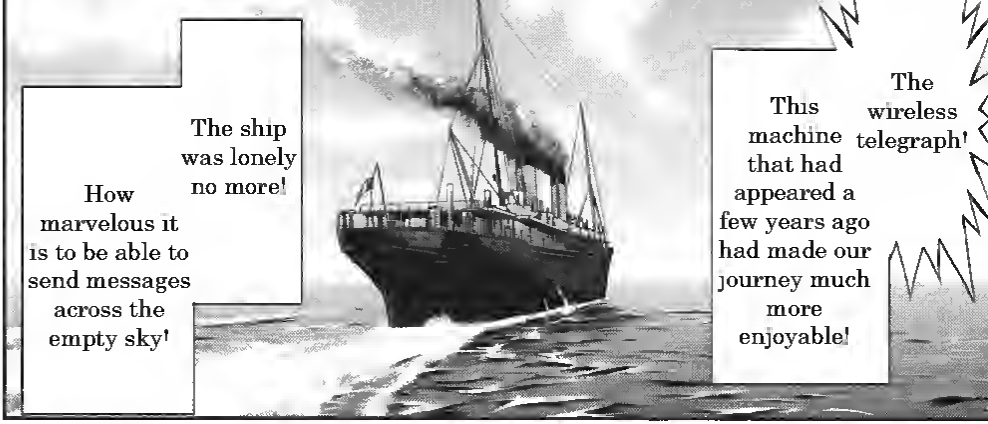


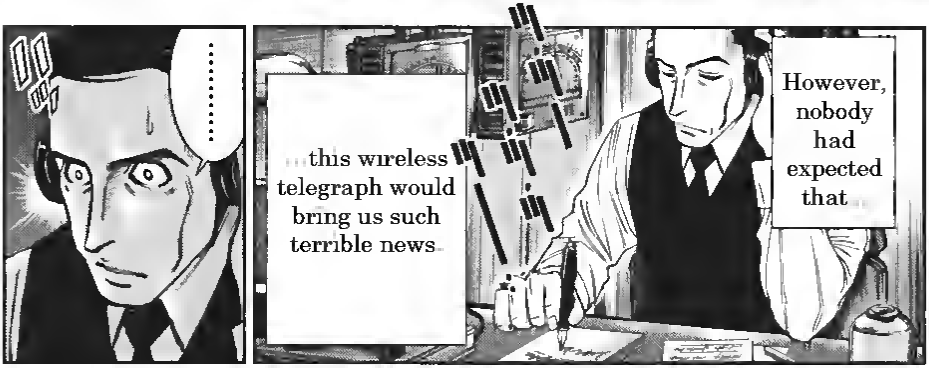


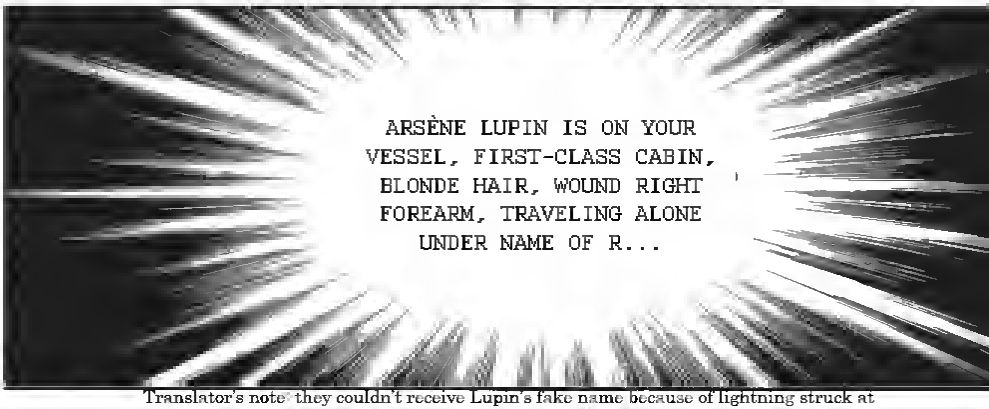




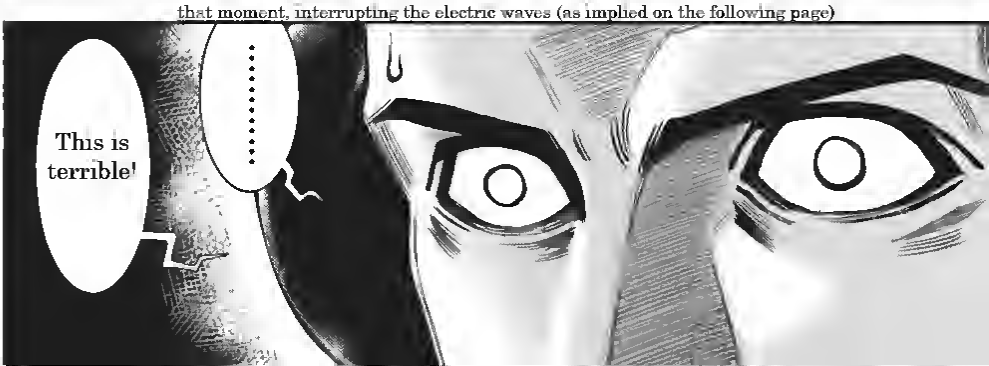



How marvelous it is to be able to send messages across the empty sky!
The ship was lonely no more!
This machine that had appeared a few years ago had made our journey much more enjoyable!
The wireless telegraph!





Translator's note: they couldn't receive Lupin's fake name because of lightning struck at that moment, interrupting the electric waves (as implied on the following page)



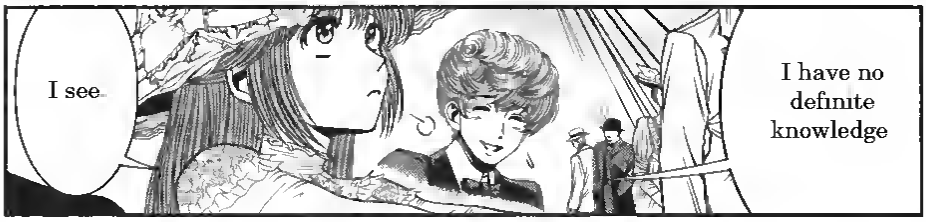
We shuddered!
Captain!
The master of disguise who has been causing trouble around the world in the past few months! The elusive phantom thief...!
Arsène Lupin in our midst!?
The man who can disguise himself as anything!
...a *commis voyageur* from Marseille, a Russian doctor or even a matador from Spain...
...a horse racing bookmaker, a youth from a good family, from young men to old men...
Sometimes a chauffeur, other times a tenor...
The phantom thief, having something of an artist in him, only targets the *chateaux* of the aristocrats or the salons of the rich...

My, this is unbearable!
This will last for five more days, won't it?
I hope he will be arrested!
Are you worried, Miss Nelly?
Dear me, are you not afraid, monsieur d'Andrézy?
This person is Miss Nelly Undertown, the daughter of a *richissime* family
She is a beauty.

I am not afraid!
This is a long-awaited chance
If I am to protect you, I shan't feel any fear!
Oh, my
What do you think?
This person is always like this
I wonder

Him again...
Dear!
I think so as well, Miss Nelly!
No, no, that young man's words are true!
T-Thank you very much!
...surely you know something?
Ah, so, monsieur d'Andrézy...
Eh?
You are not the kind of person to be fooled by such frivolous words, are you, Miss Nelly?
Well

Aah...
Ah
You are on intimate terms with the captain, so I thought you might...
About Arsène Lupin!


I see.
I have no definite knowledge

Here comes my bad habit
I would like to delight her.
But...

...quite as well as detective Ganimard, the personal enemy of Arsène Lupin?
...cannot we, ourselves, investigate the mystery...

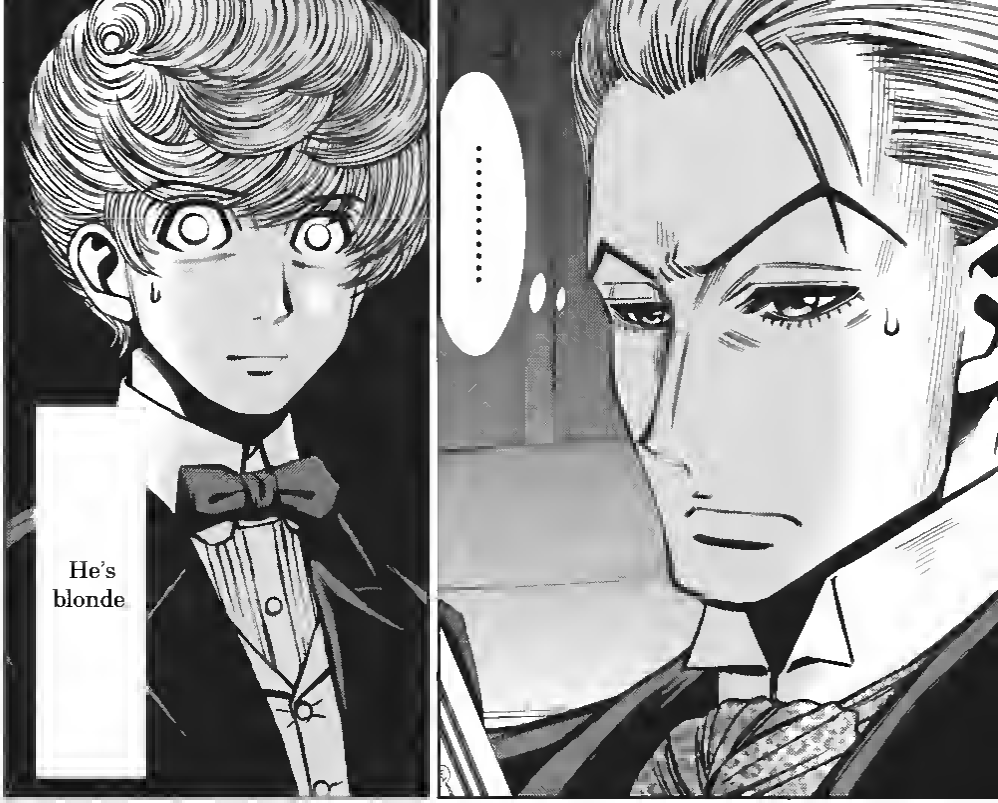
You are progressing very fast...
O-Oh!

Look! We have our wireless clue, do we not?
How would we?
In the first place, the fake name Lupin took starts with the letter R
Secondly, he is traveling alone
Thirdly, he is blonde
And then?
we have only to peruse the passenger-list, and proceed by process of elimination
This is interesting!
And then, look...

I find that there are only thirteen men on the passenger-list whose names begin with the letter R
Only thirteen!
I shall be returning to my room!
Miss Nelly!
Hmpf!

Over here He is the Secretary to the American Ambassador
I know him well
Major Rawson is next
Monsieur Rivolta
He is my uncle
Yes
Of these thirteen, nine are accompanied, are they not?
That leaves only four who are traveling alone
First, the Marquis de Raverdan

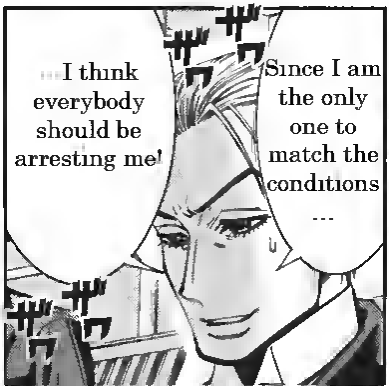
That gentleman can scarcely be called a blonde
Here!
Lupin is the remaining person...
Which means...
.....
Monsieur Rozaine!
Does anyone know monsieur Rozaine...?
Monsieur Rozaine
Well, monsieur Rozaine, why do you not answer?


He's blonde
.....

Why do I not answer?
That is because I went through the same process...
...and reached the same conclusion!

My chest hurt a little...
Because...
...even though I didn't like him, he hadn't been suspicious at all until then.

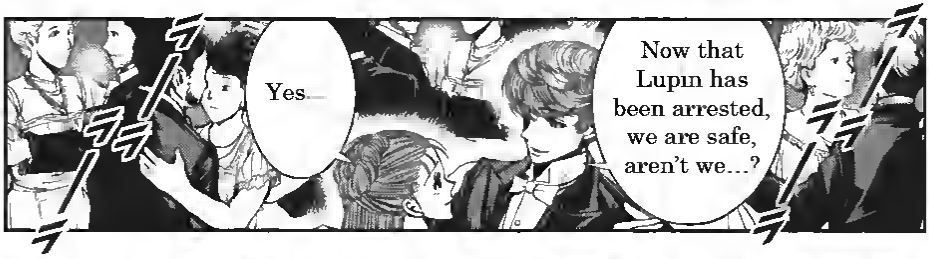
B-But, monsieur Rozaine...
...you do not have any wound on your forearm, do you?


Since I am the only one to match the conditions...
...I think everybody should be arresting me!

Lupin's wound is on his right one!
That is his left arm
...that I do not have any such wound!
I swear...
Of course
クリ
クリクリ
クリ!
Kyaaah!
Monsieur Rozaine, that is...
They've... They've all been stolen...!
My pearls.. My diamond..
Lady Jerland..!?
Miss Nelly!
My jewelry... My jewelry..!

How skillful can he be!?
In other words, the ones that were most valuable and didn't occupy much space!
Of the necklaces and bracelets, he had taken not the largest but the finest and most valuable stones.
The thief had selected the jewels that were worth stealing
...No! Not all of them!

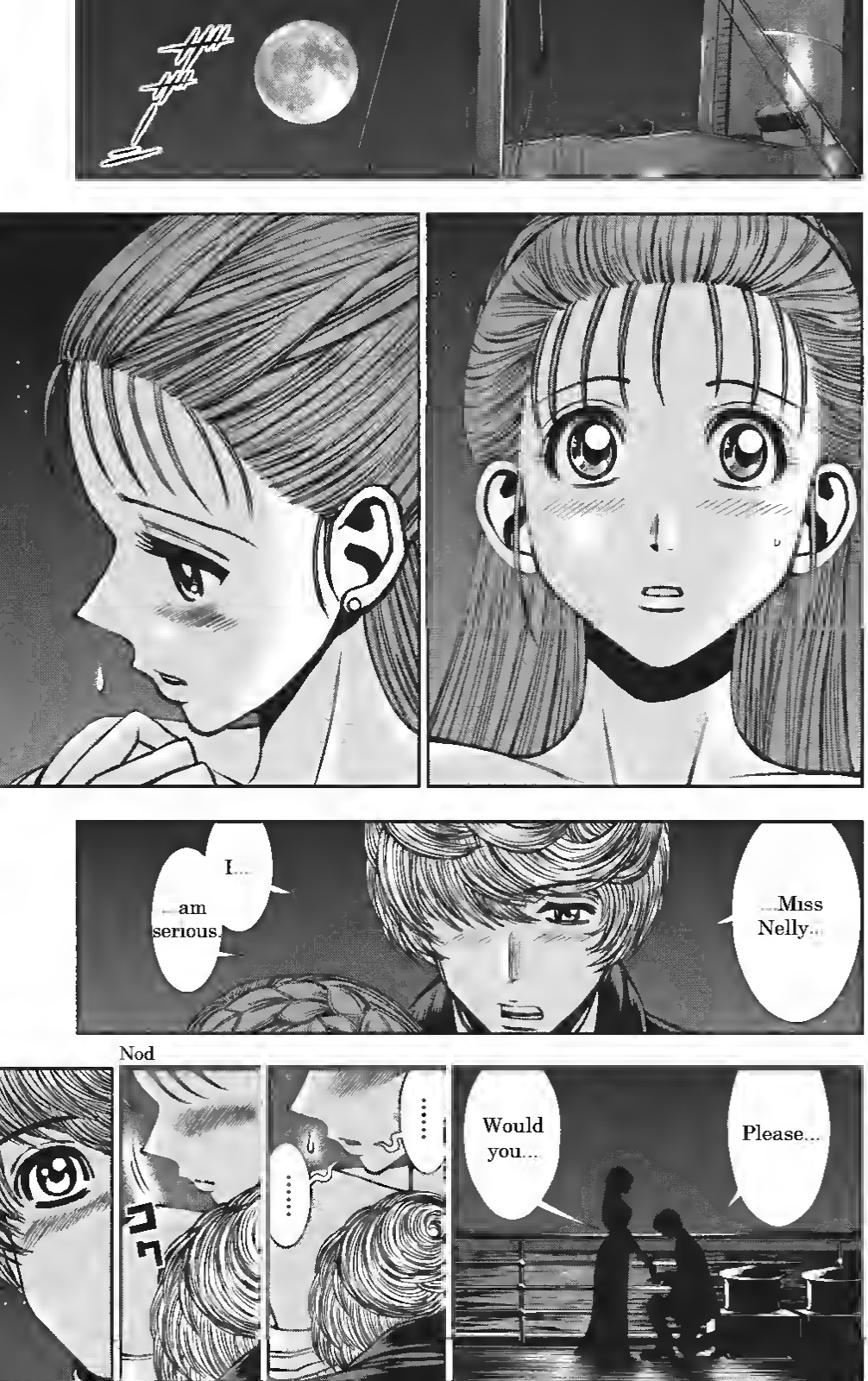
Nobody approached monsieur Rozaine after dinner
After that, monsieur Rozaine was ordered to appear before the captain
It was the work of Arsène Lupin!
On a much frequented corridor, in broad daylight, he had forced open the door of the stateroom...
...had found the smal bag, which had been hidden at the bottom of a hat-box...
...had taken its contents out and had selected his booty!
All this in the few hours in which Lady Jerland had left her room!

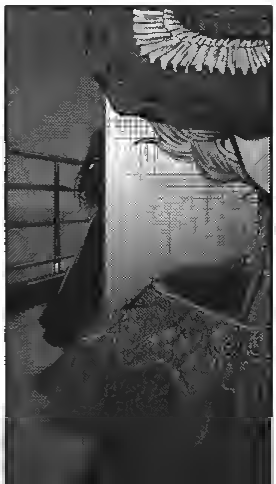

Yes...
Now that Lupin has been arrested, we are safe, aren't we...?

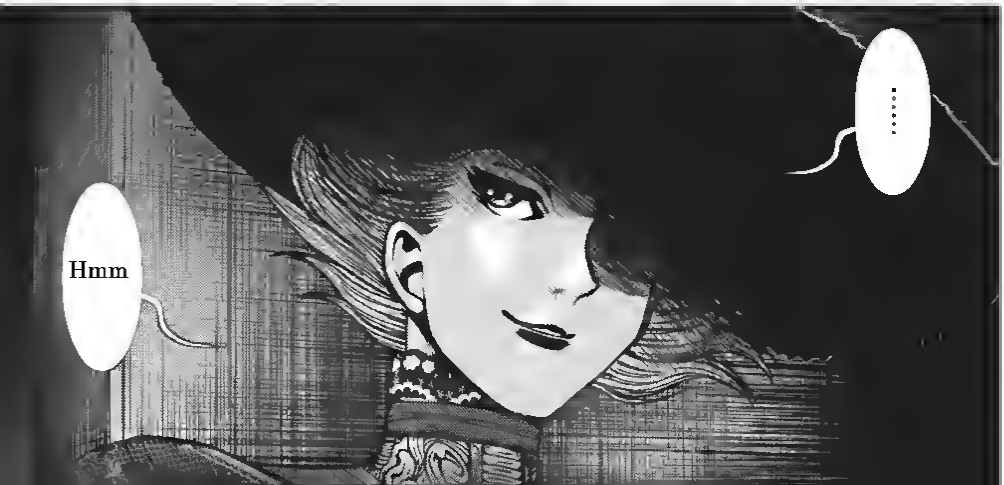
Miss Nelly
Yes?

I would like to talk to you

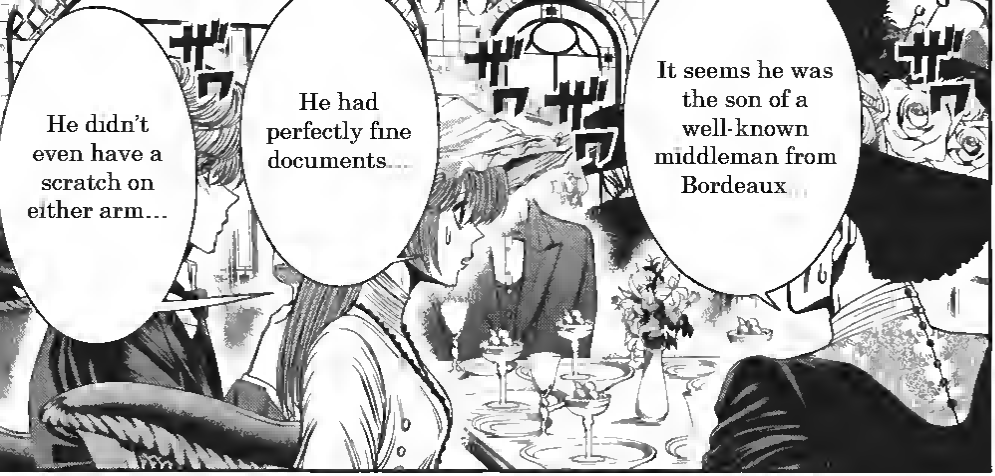
Miss Nelly was particularly charming that night
Maybe it was relief that made her shine even more...
She had completely conquered me


I...
...am serious.
...Miss Nelly...
Nod
Would you...
Please...

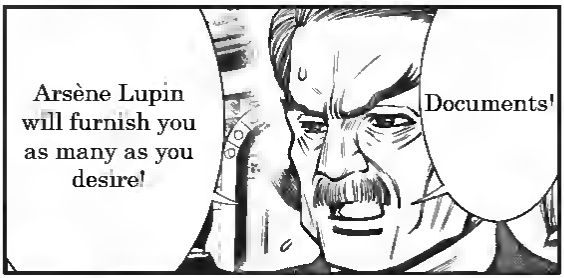



.....
Hmm

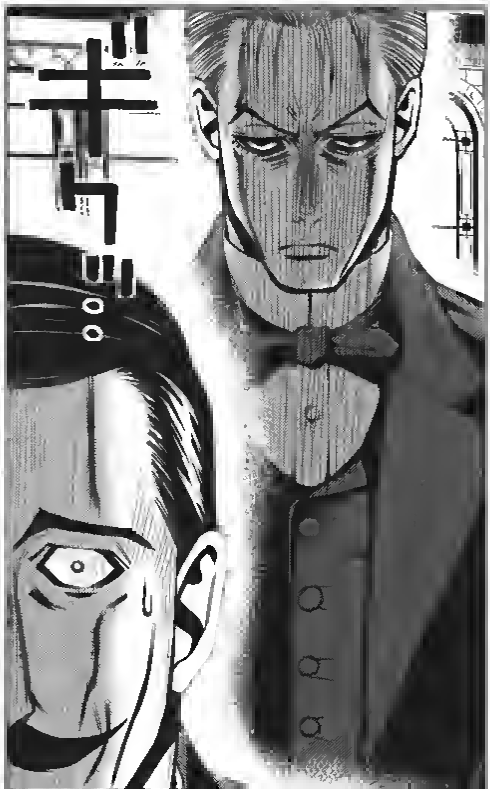
...would bring back our lost glory?
Isn't it fit for an aristocrat to think that relating himself to the *richissime* family of the Undertown...
...they had fallen somewhat in these times.
The d'Andrézy were a family with pedigree from Poitiers, but...
It could be added that it was but a fleeting dream.
It was a sweet dream of love!
But...
I have never felt so humiliated!
Rozaine has been released?
Eh!?

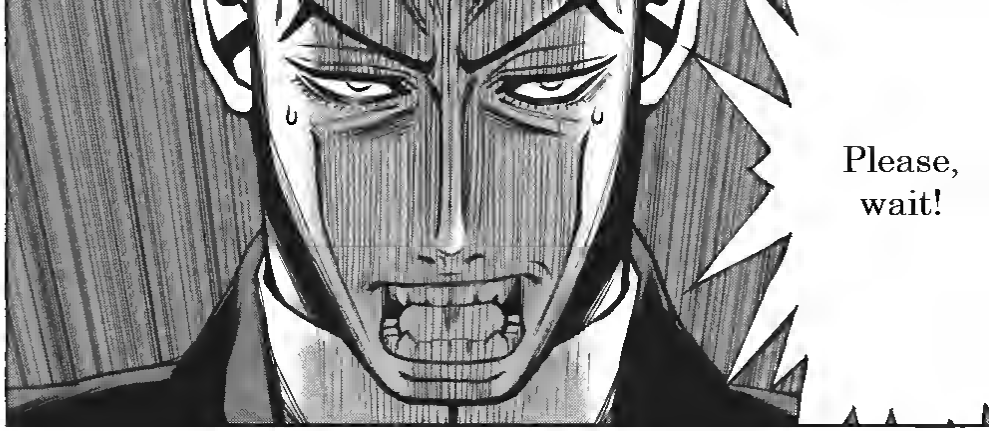

He didn't even have a scratch on either arm...
He had perfectly fine documents...
It seems he was the son of a well-known middleman from Bordeaux...

Rozaine must be...
And as to the wound, he never had it.

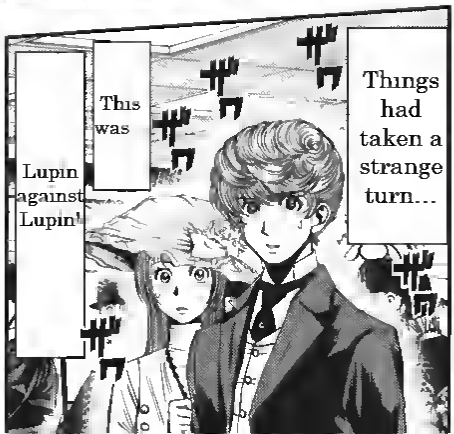

Arsène Lupin will furnish you as many as you desire!
Documents!

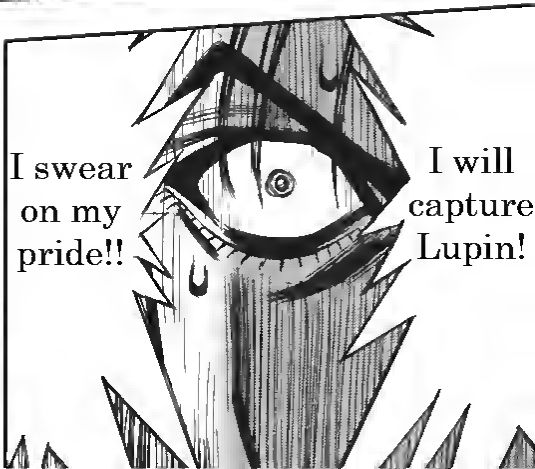
... No, I...

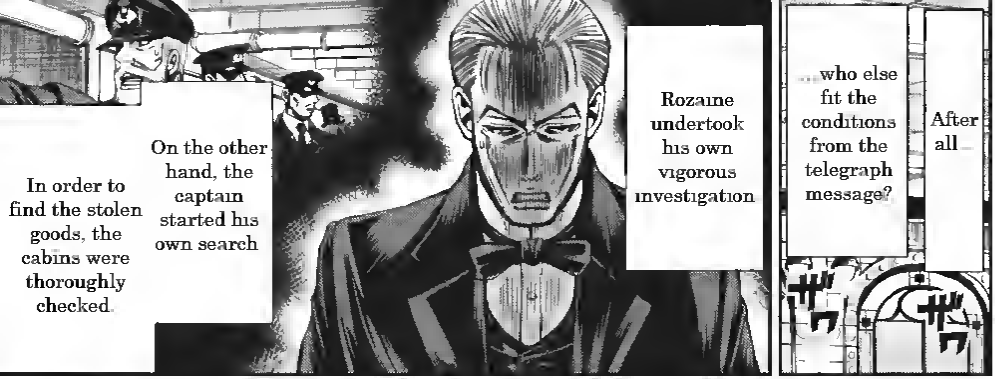



Please, wait!

...I, Rozaine, will give ten thousand francs as reward!
To whoever will manage to expose Arsène Lupin or whoever found and hid the jewels...


This was Lupin against Lupin!
Things had taken a strange turn...

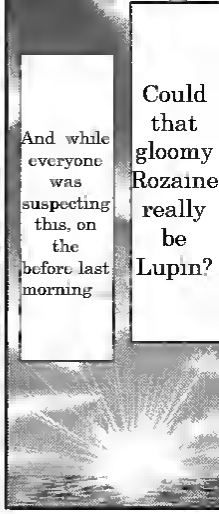

I swear on my pride!!
I will capture Lupin!

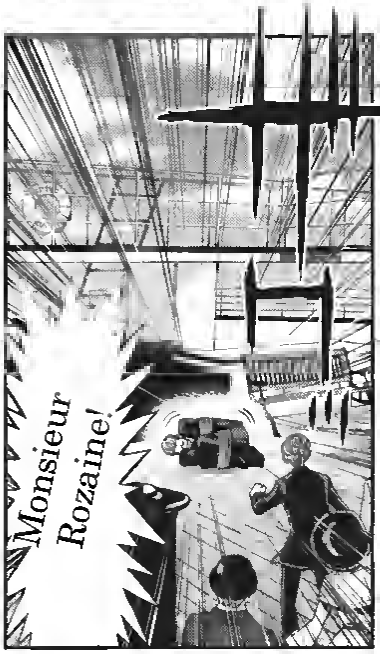

In order to find the stolen goods, the cabins were thoroughly checked.
On the other hand, the captain started his own search
Rozaine undertook his own vigorous investigation
After all...
...who else fit the conditions from the telegraph message?

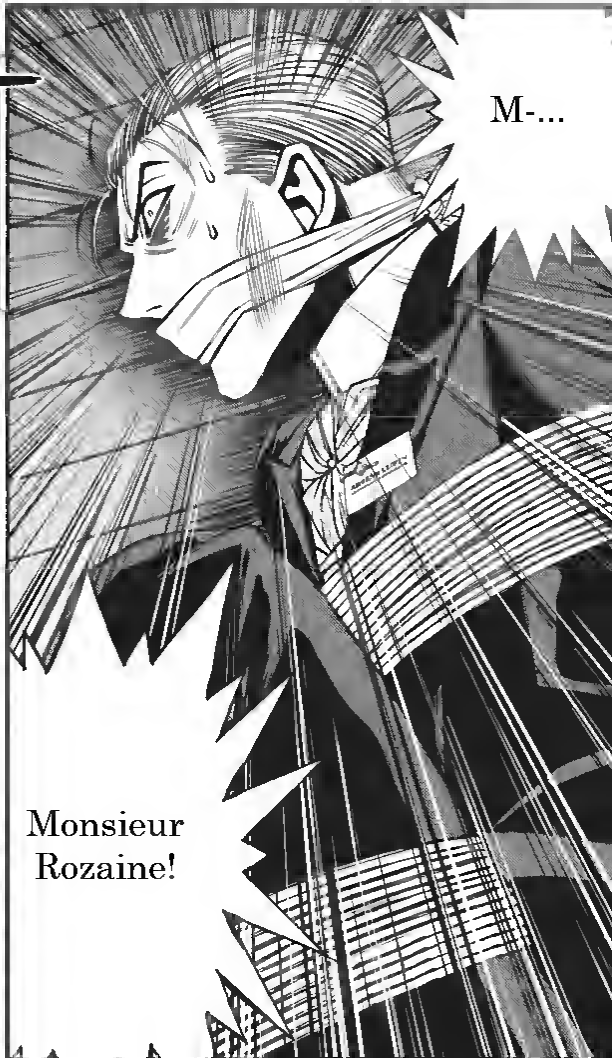
But...
Certainly not.
...they should examine from the lining of our hats to that of our vests!
カシャッ
I suppose they will find something soon.
カシャッ
Yes. For example...
Is it so?
Inside this brand new 9x12 Kodak camera, a person could hide all those jewels
Lupin may be a wizard, but he cannot make diamonds and pearls become invisible.

And that is Arsène Lupin.
There is one exception
But I have heard it said that every thief leaves some clue behind him
Yes, but since I have seen him at work
...A few days ago, you were more confident
... was that the captain's pocket watch had vanished
The one thing that they did find out...
The captain was furious
The investigation had produced no result
My prediction was correct!
This investigation is, most likely, a waste of time
But
He watched Rozaine more closely than before

... on the following day, the watch was found in the second officer's collar box.
It was as if we were watching a magic show!
Moreover, this crime bore the mark of Lupin's unique sense of humour!
Burglar though he was, at the ame time he was an artist and a dilettante as well.
To think that this was his mood!
A gentleman who heartily laughs in the shadows at the sight of his own prank...

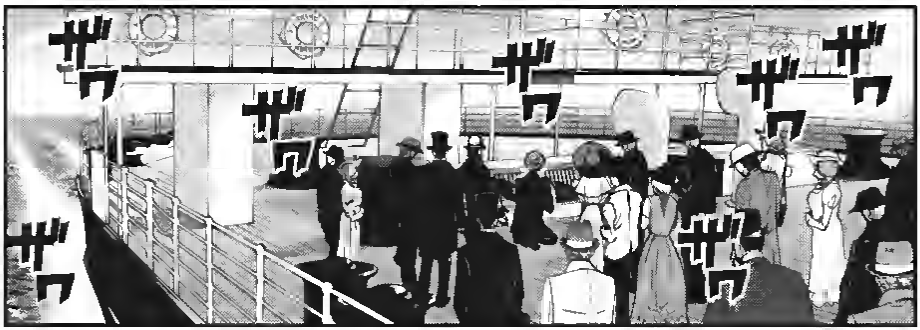

And while everyone was suspecting this, on the before last morning
Could that gloomy Rozaine really be Lupin?


Monsieur Rozaine!


M-...
Monsieur Rozaine!

!

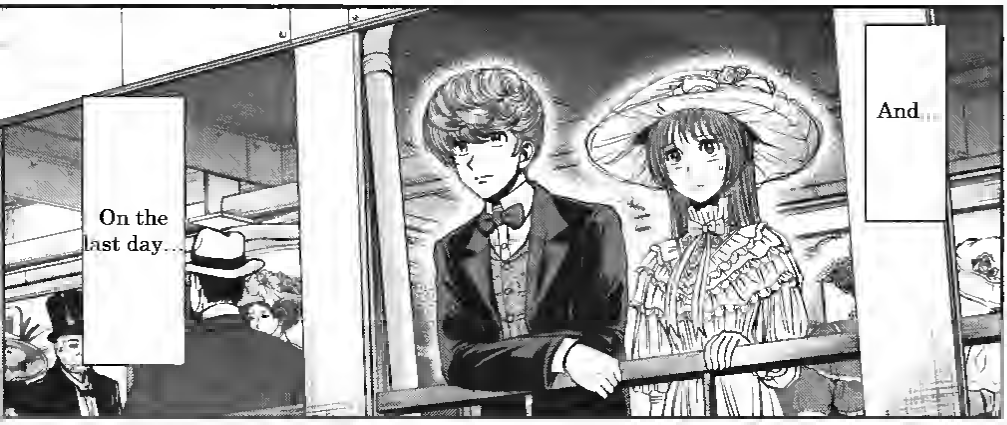
"I accept with pleasure the ten thousand francs offered by monsieur Rozaine
Arsène Lupin"
ARSÈNE LUPIN
GENTLEMAN CAMBRIOLEUR
A business card...?
ARSÈNE LUPIN
GENTLEMAN CAMBRIOLEUR

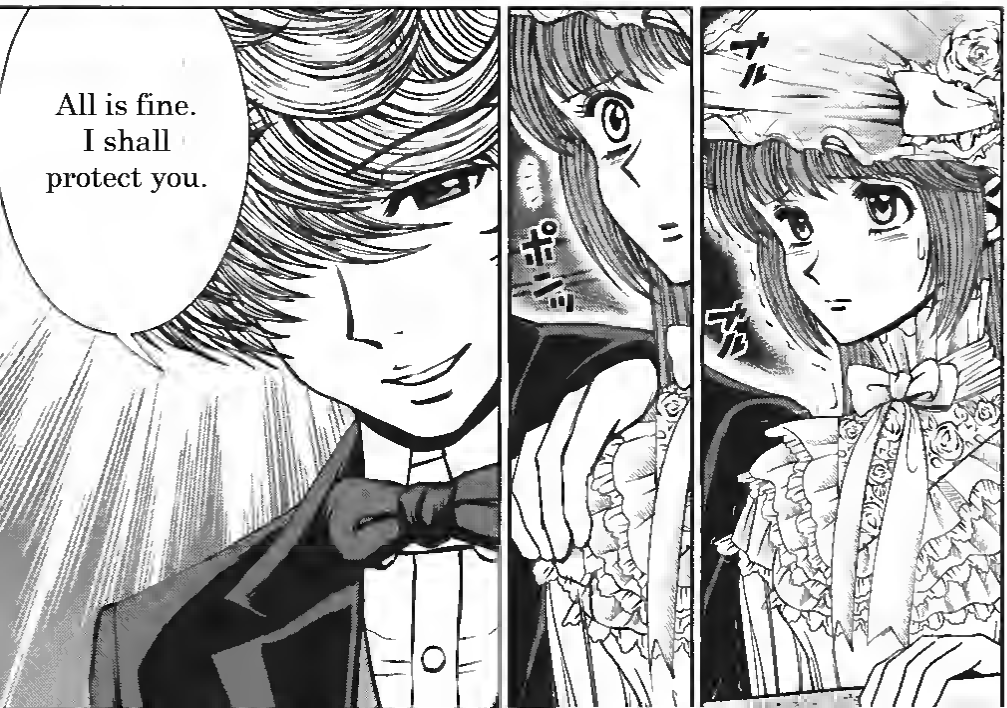


Lupin...?
Who is...
Then...
Maybe he is playing a part in his own play!
How would we know!?
So Rozaine wasn't Lupin...
...No, it is impossible to tie oneself up

Monsieur Rozaine has been attacked...
I know...
Fear was whirling across the ship!
Now, none would remain alone in a stateroom
And yet...
... who could be trusted?
Let us go...
.....
The conditions from the telegraph message couldn't help us anymore
NOW, EVERYONE IS LUPIN!!

At least, the captain did not communicate any to us.
The first wireless dispatches from America brought no news
Next time, it could be a murder!
Then we had a wounded person
No one imagined that Arsène Lupin would confine himself to those two trifling offenses


On the last day...
And...


All is fine. I shall protect you.

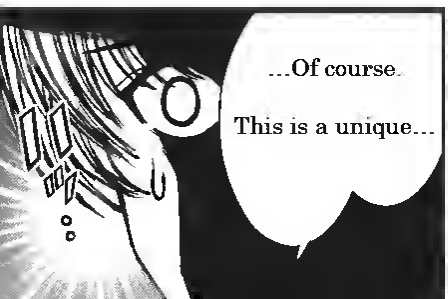
Finally

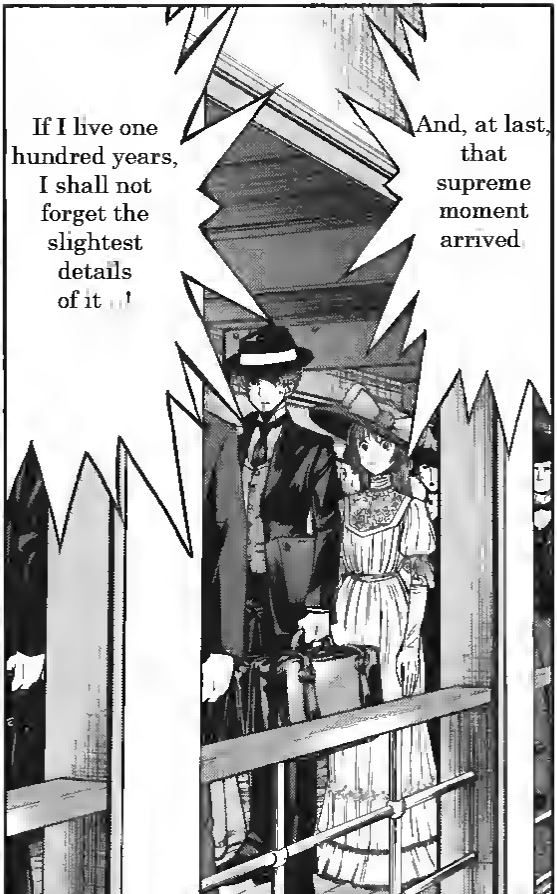
The ship made it to New York, its destination

We were anxiously awaiting the supreme moment in which the mysterious enigma would be explained.
Who was Arsène Lupin?

How pale you are, Miss Nelly.

And you!


...Of course.
This is a unique...


If I live one hundred years, I shall not forget the slightest details of it...!
And, at last, that supreme moment arrived.

That is Ganimard.
What happened?
...Look, over there...
Do you see that little old man standing at the bottom of the gangway?
With an umbrella and an olive-green frock coat?
Yes.

I can understand now why we did not receive any news from this side of the Atlantic. He always keeps his business secret
Yes, the celebrated detective who has sworn to capture Arsène Lupin
Ganimard?
I see, so Ganimard had come...
Who can tell!
Then you think he will arrest Arsène Lupin?
You will have to be patient
I should like to see him arrested!
Ah!
Unless he knows his fake name...
I have heard that Ganimard has only seen Lupin in disguise
No doubt, Arsène Lupin has already seen Ganimard

...when Ganimard will have tired his eyes
I think he will leave among the last...

The disembarking has begun. People are walking past Ganimard
ザワ
ザワ
ザワ

!

It does not seem to be any of them...
.....

The Marquis de Raverdan

Major Rawson

Monsieur Rivolta

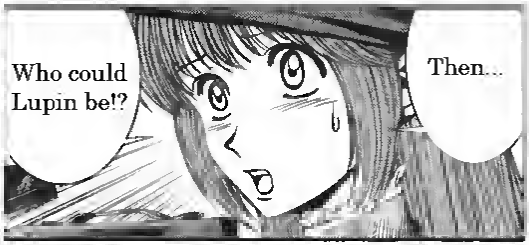
Monsieur Rozaine

I do not know
Eh?
What do you think?

.....
Perhaps it is he, after all
Who else could it possibly be?

I am loaded down
Could you take the camera, Miss Nelly?
I think it would be very interesting to have Ganimard and Rozaine in the same picture
Yes, I shall

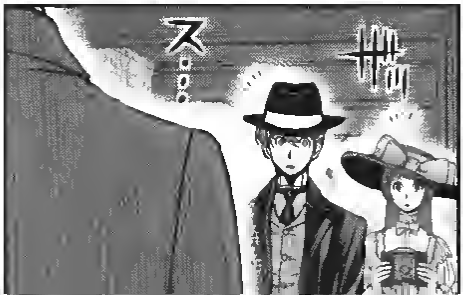
ス…
Oh?
ボソボソ


Who could Lupin be!?
Then...

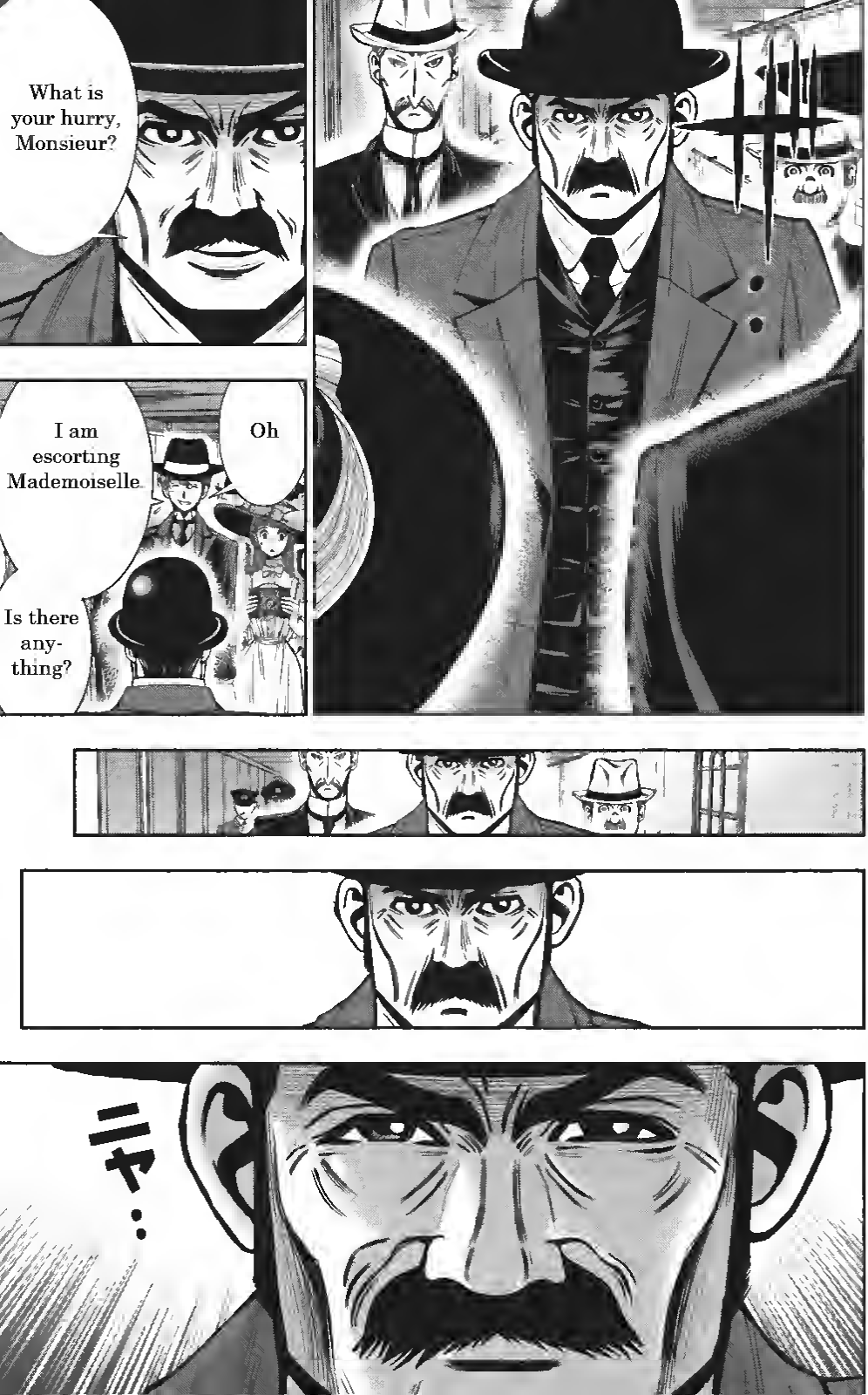
So it was not monsieur Rozaine...

Let us go.
We cannot wait much longer.
……

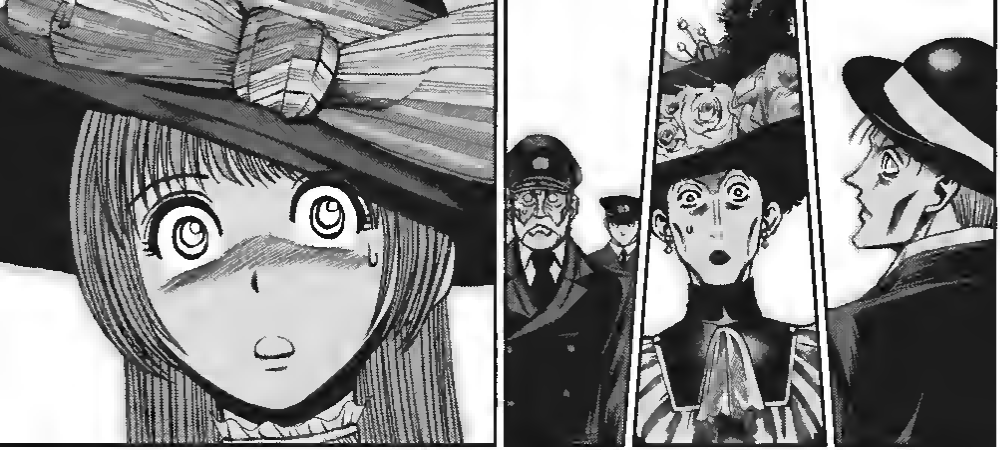
Yes.

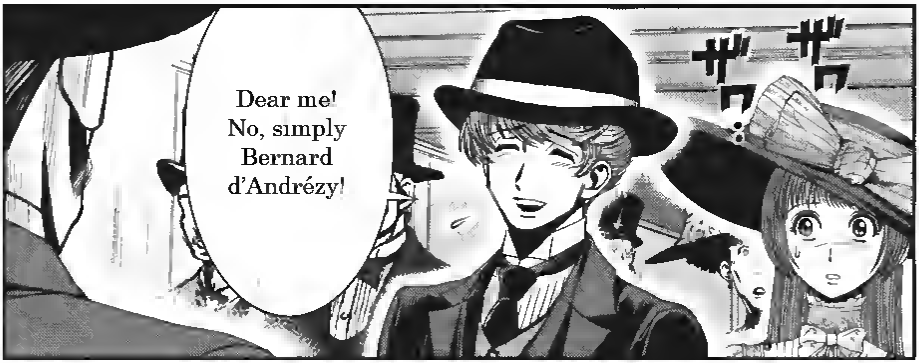

ス…
サッ

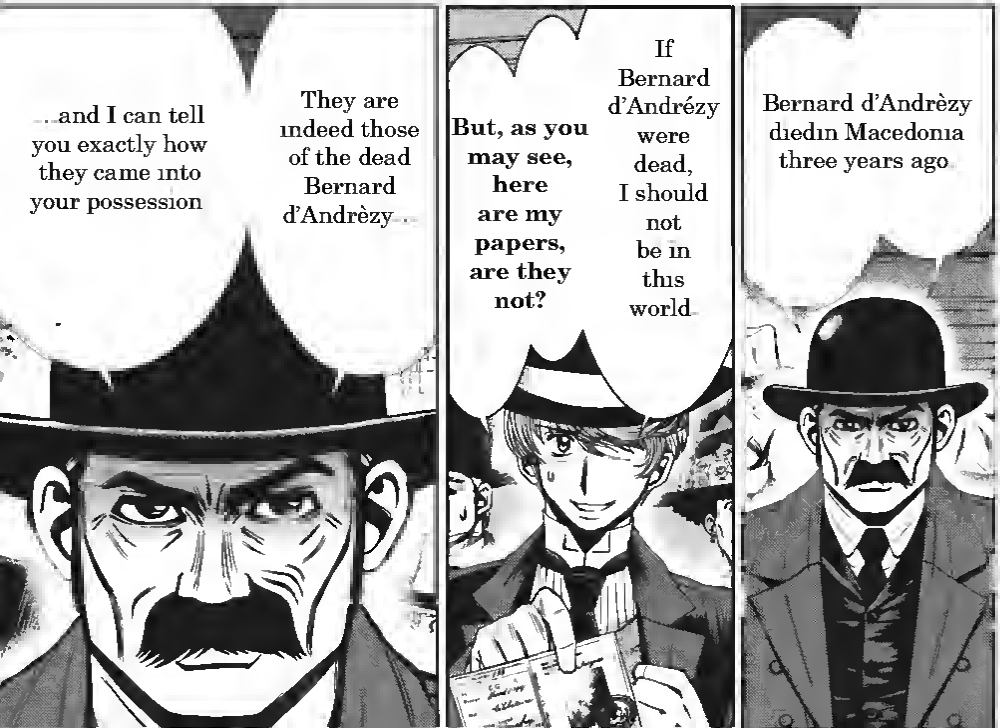
There are twenty passengers left aboard.


What is your hurry, Monsieur?
I am escorting Mademoiselle
Oh
Is there any-thing?
ニヤ・・

Arsène Lupin, is it not?



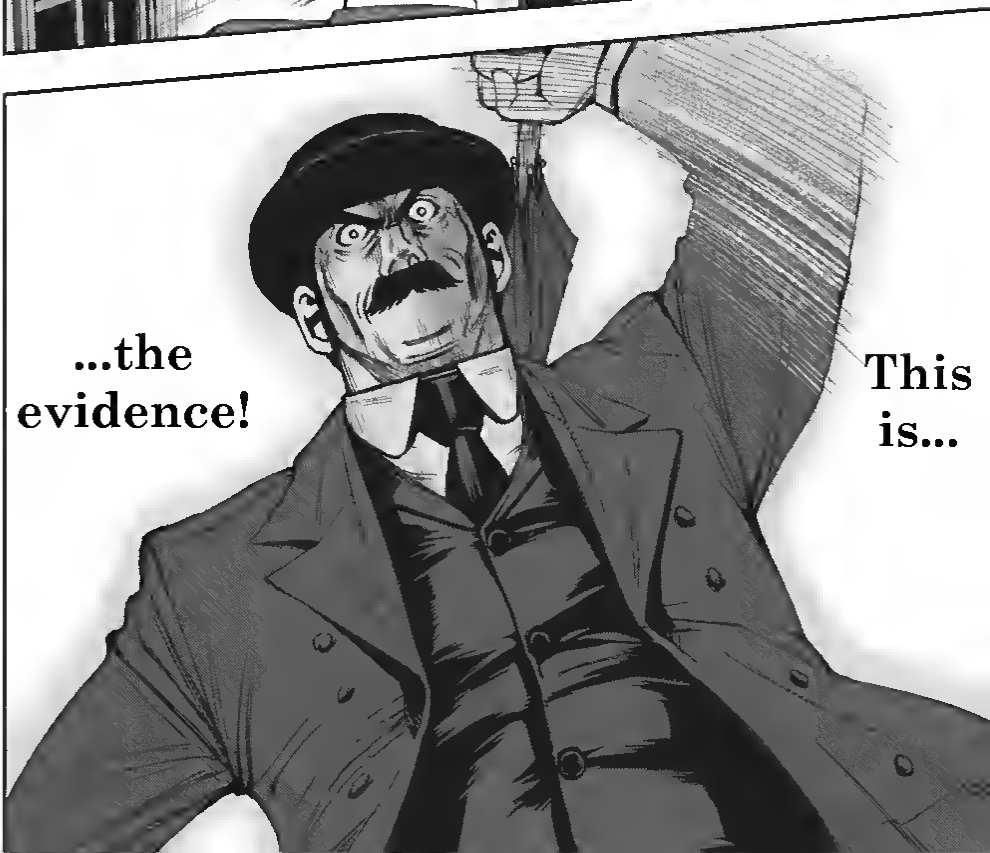

Dear me!
No, simply
Bernard
d'Andrézy!

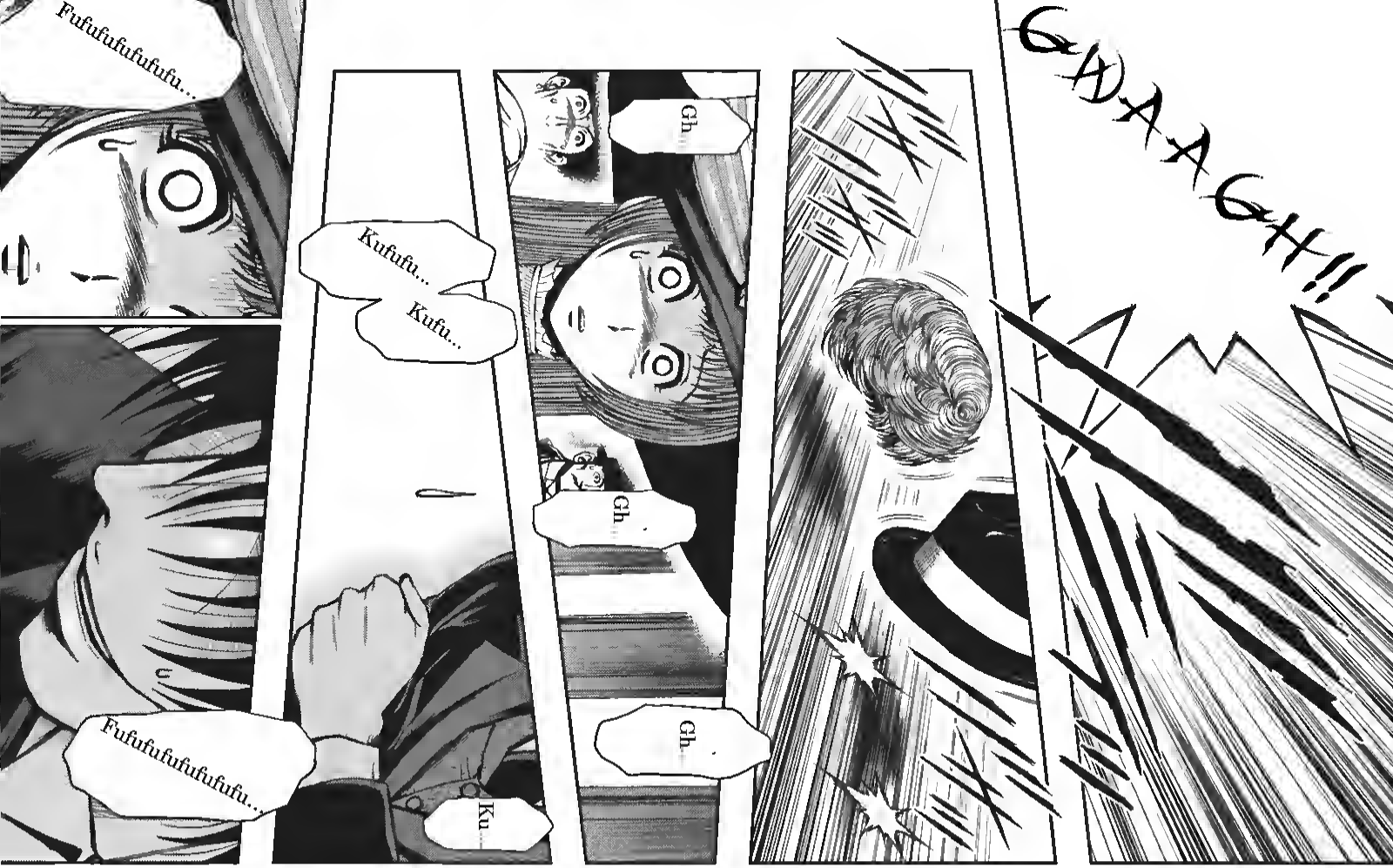

Bernard d'Andrèzy
diedin Macedonia
three years ago
If
Bernard
d'Andrézy
were
dead,
I should
not
be in
this
world
But, as you
may see,
here
are my
papers,
are they
not?
They are
indeed those
of the dead
Bernard
d'Andrèzy
...and I can tell
you exactly how
they came into
your possession

You purposefully leaked false information to deceive your pursuers. You play a good game, my boy!
Yes, another of your tricks!

Arsène Lupin sailed under the name of R, did he not?
...You are a fool!

....But this time luck is against you...


...the evidence!
This is...

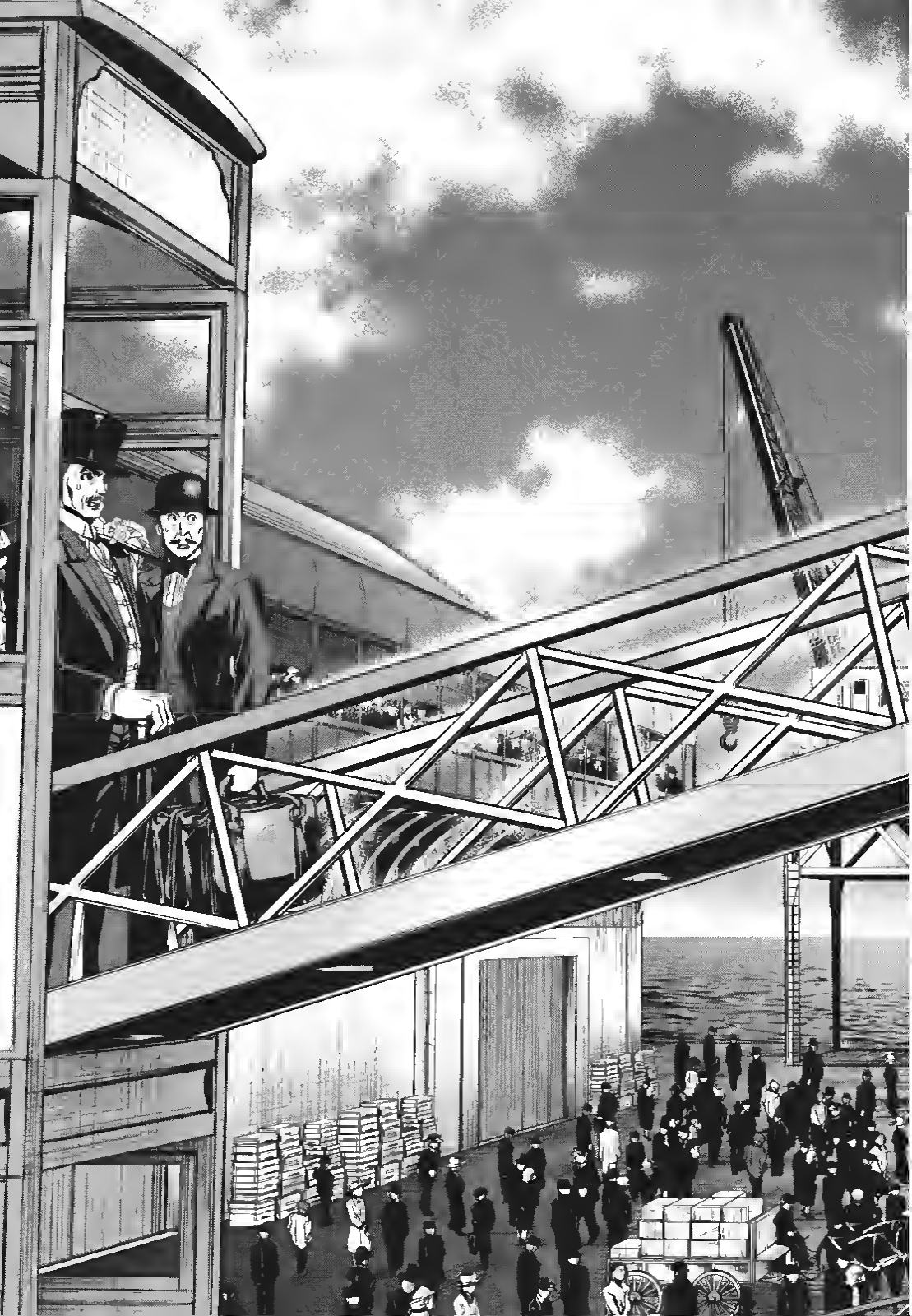

Fufufufufufufu...
Kufufu...
Kufu...
Gh
Gh
Gh
Ku
Fufufufufufufufufu...
GWAAGH!!

!
Without any difficulty
Ganimard hit the wound on my right arm...
He had struck the wound, yet unhealed, referred to in the telegram
He had hit it with a sharp blow...

……
……
Even inside this Kodak camera……
……!!

I am now perfectly indifferent to my arrest!
Oh!
To everything except this one question: what will Miss Nelly do with the things I had confided to her?
I had taken the precaution to place it in her hands before Ganimard arrested me.
Yes, it was there I had deposited Lady Jerland's jewels and Rozaine's ten thousand francs.
She must have understood right then
!
...No, she would probably furnish the proof to Ganimard where nobody could see them, after this...
She walked past me without saying anything.
!?
Ah...
...would she pity me and remain silent?
Or...
Would she act the part of an enemy and furnish that proof to Ganimard?

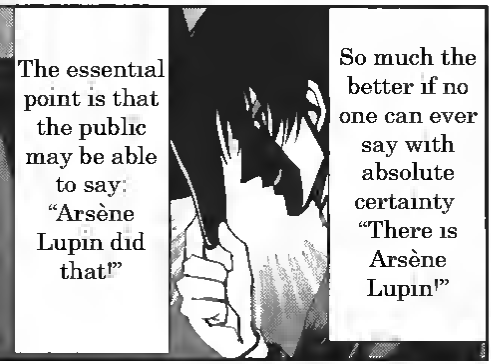
スウー！



Thank you.
ガヤ
ガヤ
ガヤ
ガヤ
ガヤ
……

Fufu... monsieur Ganimard...
ガッシャーン
Come now, let's go, Lupin.

What a pity that I am not an honest man!


The essential point is that the public may be able to say: "Arsène Lupin did that!"
So much the better if no one can ever say with absolute certainty "There is Arsène Lupin!"

What happened to him after that?
So...

He often said this: "I no longer know who I am."
Hzoo

This is the story of the arrest that he told me one evening

It is here that the legend of Arsène Lupin raised its curtains!
No...
Of course, he was not the kind of fellow to let it end like this
He should've slipped into third class and run away...
...Oh, dear...
Well, looks like things will be getting busy, dear boy!
CHAPITRE I ◆ END